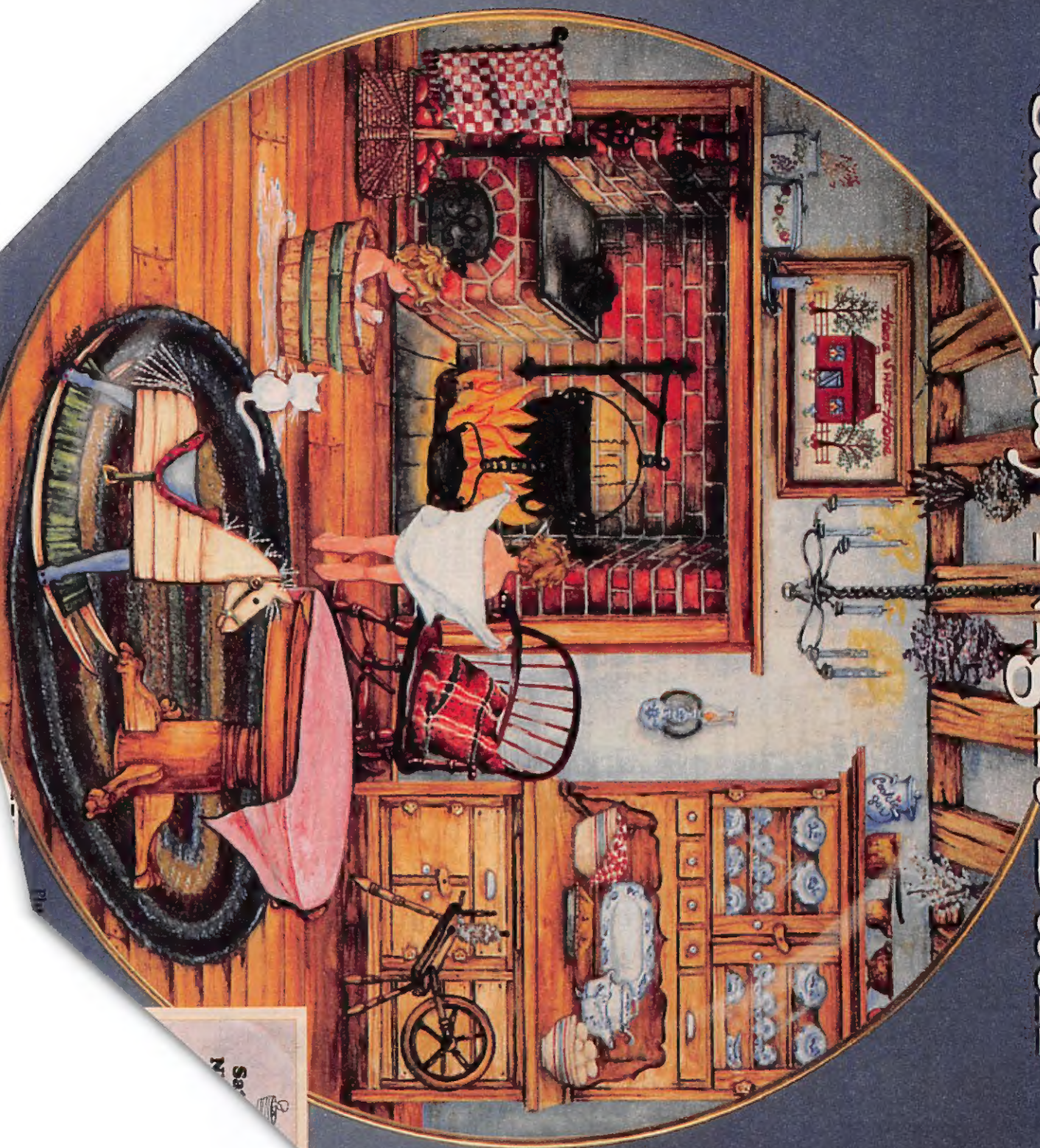


Saturday Night Bath





5771:

Comes short or sleeveless. Easy empire yoke is cut crosswise for contrast. All dresses have stitched in side seam pockets.

Optional tie belt. Misses sizes A(One Size).

4209:

Top has three sleeve lengths and skirt is elasticized.

Misses' Sizes

S(8-10), M(12-14), L(16-18), XL(20-22) are included in pattern.

5768:

Pull over top has short sleeves with round or scallop neckline. Skirt has elasticized waistline with optional side seam pockets.

Misses' sizes A(PT-XL).



504

ASK MARILYN

BY MARILYN VOS SAVANT



The other day I got off from work, bought a six-pack of beer and headed toward a friend's house. Since it was a long, hot walk and I was beat, I drank three beers along the way, figuring I'd have that much less to carry. My friend says I'd still be carrying the same amount of weight, only in a different place. Who's right?

—D. Patmore, St. Petersburg, Fla.

I'd vote for your way of thinking. Does your friend usually feel that when he goes out to dinner, he also has to carry it home afterward? And if he now weighs, say, 16 pounds more than he did in high school, does he feel that he's carrying around a regulation bowling ball everywhere he goes? Regardless, you might want to tell him that he can at least be glad you didn't stop to buy half a dozen bottles of wine instead.

Are bees attracted to artificial sweeteners such as saccharin, cyclamate, aspartame or stevioside?

—T. Miller, Carteret, N.J.

No. Maybe it's because artificial sweeteners are essentially nonnutritive, which is why they don't add calories to foods. So when you're getting ready for your next picnic and think it's time for the bees in the park to go on a diet, you might want to fill your basket with goodies like alitame, thaumatin, chlorosucroses, dihydrochalcones, L-sugars, acesulfame-K, PS-99 and PS-100.

Your "yes" answer to the cafeteria question is right, but there is a flaw in the reasoning.

The question was: "If A eats at a cafeteria twice a week, and A sees B there about 75% of the time, can A assume that B goes there more often than A does?" You replied: "Yes, assuming the same lunch hour and randomly varying days. Say B goes once a week; if A also goes once, A has a 1-7 chance of seeing B. Now say B goes twice, and A still goes once; A doubles his chance of seeing B to 2-7. If A goes twice too; his chance doubles again.

If the total number of times that A sees B divided by the total number of weeks that they go to the cafeteria is 75%, your figures make sense. This quotient, which could be greater than 1, is neither the probability of A seeing B on a given day of visit, nor is it the probability of A seeing B during a given week. It is the *expected value* of the number of times A sees B per week. If both visit twice a week, this expected value of the number of sightings is indeed 4/7 (57%). This is an interesting and powerful concept that can be used for analyzing many situations and is worthy of further exploration.

—David Pollack, Ph.D.,
Youngstown State University,
Youngstown, Ohio

I've noticed that people with money are not sharing of it, yet those who have little money enjoy spending money on others too. Why are people this way? (Please don't say that the wealthy have money because they don't spend it.)

—L.J. Hamilton, Houston, Tex.

I think you're dead wrong and that it's time to take a closer look at this stereotype. I, too, have paid attention to charitable behavior throughout my life, and I've reached a very different conclusion. That is, I believe that people of *all* economic classes enjoy treating others and giving money away to those less fortunate. Why are people this way? Well, why not? Few wealthy people inherited their money; in fact, the great majority of them began life just like the rest of us. That is, they're the same people—just more financially successful.

And you can't even say that people who are born wealthy are uncharitable—they're famous for philanthropy. Name a wealthy family—such as the Carnegies or the Fords or the Rockefellers—and go to the trouble to do a little research. See if there's a charitable organization that bears their name, like the Ford Foundation. I think you'll be in for a surprise.

As "vos Savant" is your mother's name, and your father's name was "Mach," is it possible that you are related to the famous physicist-philosopher Ernst Mach (1838-1916), who strongly influ-

ahead. Although searching one's genes can be an exciting experience, it seems for every one poet in your family to find half a dozen pirates.

Of all the creatures known to man, is there any animal other than man that indulges in sex for pleasure rather than for procreation?

—Audric Gibson, Paramount, N.Y.

I don't know of any nonhuman animal that engages in sex for any reason *other* than pleasure (or pure instinct). After all, man is even intellectually advanced enough to learn how to plant a crop, much less figure out how sex acts relate to baby animals. So if you believe that engaging in sex for pleasure is inherently wrong, you could easily conclude that man is the *most* moral animal (because he occasionally tries to generate offspring, even if only a couple of times throughout life), rather than the least moral of them, as you imply.

When does a hill become a mountain?

—Xandra Calandri, Palm Springs, Calif.

When it fills out an application for employment.

So, WHAT'S THE QUESTION?

The answer was "A Meteor Show." Here are some of your questions:

"What do you call an engagement party given for two celestial bodies?"

—Laura Buchal, Wilson, N.C.

"What do you wish for when you visit a rock garden needs irrigation?"

—H.J. Crouch, Fort Worth, Texas

"What does Venus tell you when you date with Mars?"

—Kathy Ransom, Dallas, Texas

"What is the least attractive to a sun?"

—Joan, New York

"What do you call a person who is a braggart?"

—Joan, New York